

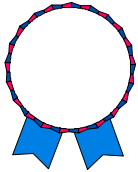


ARMY ACQUISITION REFORM

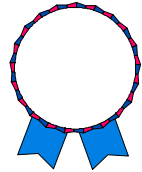


Issue 62

4 September 1997



DSSW ASKS THE \$64,000 QUESTION AND DOD WINS



Recently, Defense Supply Service-Washington (DSS-W) reviewed the process for obtaining a *Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS)* number for Federal contractors from Dun & Bradstreet. While Dun & Bradstreet had a toll free number for customer service, DoD personnel had to use a commercial telephone number. The *question* asked was “*Why isn’t there a toll free number for DoD personnel to use?*” According to Mike Caskin, Director, Dun & Bradstreet Government Services, the reason was simple -- *no one ever asked for one*. Effective 26 August 1997, Dun & Bradstreet installed a toll free number (1-888-546-0024) for DoD personnel’s use when requesting a DUNS number. This fiscal year alone, over 40,000 calls have been placed by DoD personnel to Dun & Bradstreet. Use of the toll free number will save DoD an estimated \$64,000 per year in long distance service.

ARMY CONTRACTING for the 21st Century Booklet

In June 1997, the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Procurement) published the *Army Contracting for the 21st Century Booklet*. The booklet describes the story of Army Contracting and defines its goals and strategic focus. It also describes some Army Contracting accomplishments and points the way to the future. Army Contracting has led the Acquisition Reform charge and continues to innovate to provide our soldiers the best possible support now and in the 21st Century. For copies of the booklet, contact Melissa Pittard at (703) 681-9155 or send her your request by email to pittardm@sarda.army.mil.